

2019/19/ST

IPCC STATEMENT

16 July 2019

Media reports on the draft IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land

GENEVA, July 16 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) notes that news articles have appeared citing a draft of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCL).

The IPCC will consider the report from 2 to 6 August 2019 in Geneva, where it will examine the Summary for Policymakers of the report line by line. This process typically leads to further changes in the Summary for Policymakers.

Draft reports are provided as working documents for the approval session. They are not intended for public distribution, and must not be quoted or cited, because the text can change between the drafts and the final version once the IPCC has carefully considered every line. As with any work in progress, it is important to respect the authors and give them the time and space to finish writing before making the work public.

Drafts of the report are collective works in progress that do not necessarily represent the IPCC's final assessment of the state of knowledge. According to the IPCC procedures, reports are made available to the public after their Summary for Policymakers has been approved and the underlying report accepted. The IPCC does not comment on draft reports while work is ongoing.

The agreed outline of the report, whose full name is *Climate Change and Land, an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems*, can be found at:
www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/04/Decision_Outline_SR_LandUse.pdf

Subject to approval, a press conference to present the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land will be held on 8^t August in Geneva. The press conference will be streamed live. Details on how to access it were sent in this [media advisory](#). The SRCCL Summary for Policymakers, press release and any other press materials will be made available to registered media under embargo shortly after completion of the approval process, expected on 6 August.

The latest draft of the report was circulated to governments for comment on the Summary for Policymakers between 29 April and 24 June 2019.

Journalists or others seeking context or background information can contact Sigourney Luz, Communications Manager, IPCC Working Group III Technical Support Unit, or Jonathan Lynn, Head of Communications, IPCC.

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Notes for editors

About the SRCCL

For the IPCC *Special Report on Climate Change* (SRCCL), more than 100 scientists from 52 countries are assessing the latest scientific knowledge about climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. Their interlinkages as well as synergies, trade-offs and integrated response options will be presented. The SRCCL is being prepared under the joint scientific leadership of Working Groups I, II, III and the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, and supported by the WG III Technical Support Unit.

About the IPCC

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and potential future risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. It has 195 member states.

IPCC assessments provide governments, at all levels, with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC assessments are a key input into the international negotiations to tackle climate change. IPCC reports are drafted and reviewed in several stages, thus guaranteeing objectivity and transparency.

The IPCC assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed. It does not conduct its own research.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds.

The IPCC has three working groups: Working Group I, dealing with the physical science basis of climate change; Working Group II, dealing with impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and Working Group III, dealing with the mitigation of climate change. It also has a Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that develops methodologies for measuring emissions and removals. All of these are supported by Technical Support Units guiding the production of IPCC assessment reports and other products.

IPCC Assessment Reports consist of contributions from each of the three working groups and a Synthesis Report. Special Reports undertake an assessment of cross-disciplinary issues that span more than one working group and are shorter and more focused than the main assessments.

About the Sixth Assessment Cycle

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). At its 42nd Session in October 2015 it elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. At its 43rd Session in April 2016, it decided to produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report and AR6.

In October 2018 the IPCC finalized the Special Report on *Global Warming of 1.5°C*. In May 2019 it released the Methodology Report *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

Besides *Climate Change and Land*, the IPCC will release the *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* (SROCC) in September 2019, subject to approval.

The three Working Groups' contributions to the Sixth Assessment Report will be finalized in 2021. A Synthesis Report will complete the AR6 cycle in early 2022, integrating all the Working Group contributions and the findings of the three special reports.

For more information go to www.ipcc.ch